Protest with U.K. Govt. regarding parallel between apartheid and untouchability

605. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article which appeared in The Times of London on September 7, 1988 wherein a parallel has been drawn between the apartheid and untouchability in India;

(b) whether Government have lodged any protest with the U. K. Government in this regard; if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) to (c) A commentary by one Woodrew Wyatt appeared in the Times of London on September 7, 1988 under the title 'Apartheid. Indian Fashion'. The Deputy High Commissioner for India in London wrote a letter to the Editor of The Times expressing surprise at Mr. Wyatt's attempt to draw an absurd parallel between what he regarded as the fate of the "untouchables" in India and the system of apartheid in South Africa. The Deputy High Commissioner's letter was carried by The Times on September 12, 1988.

As Woodrew Wyatt is not an official of the U.K. Govt., the question of lodging a protest with it does not arise.

Construction of net-work of roads by Hotmix Plant in Uttar Pradesh

606. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has sought Central assistance for constructing a net-work of roads by hotmix plant in 35 districts in the plains & seven hill districts;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal; and

(c) what action has been taken by Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to proposals under the Centrally Aid Programme of loan assistance for State roads of Economic or Inter-State importance (E&I Programme) of the 7th Five Year Plan. Projects for inclusion in this programme were called from the State Governments in April, 1987. A list of projects received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh is annexed. (See below) The proposal for construction of Yamuna Bridge in Ambala-Saharanpur road with a loan assistance of Rs. 466.00 lakhs (to be equally shared with the State Government of Haryana) has been included in this programme.

List

Proposals received for inclusion in the E&I Programme during the 7th Five Year Plan

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Road	Total cost
1	Construction of Yamuna Bridge at Ambala-Saharanpur Road.	466.00
2	Widening and Strengthening of Lucknow-Bangarmau-Bilham Road.	1077.00
3	Widening of Aligarh-Tappal-Jover Road.	201.75
4	Approach Road to Yamuna Bridge at Meerut-Karnal Road.	67.50
	TOTAL	1812.25